

RUSSIA AND TRUMP, SUBTLE ENTRAPMENT

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, years from now, history books could well describe entrapment of a United States President by a foreign adversary. Allow me to update my colleagues on the Trump administration's foreign policy.

Recently, the State Department avoided committing Secretary Rex Tillerson to a NATO meeting next month with our tried and true allies in Europe. Yet, the administration has no problem flying Secretary Tillerson to Moscow to meet with Putin in April. This is no April Fools' joke. Since when is the Kremlin more important than our NATO partners? Never.

Several reports now say Trump's former campaign chair, Paul Manafort, secretly worked for a Russian billionaire to advance Putin's interests and undermine anti-Russian opposition across Europe. This contradicts assertions by the Trump administration and Manafort that he never worked for Russian interests. Congress needs to get to the bottom of these shady connections, and Paul Manafort should testify to the House Intelligence Committee, under oath.

Russia has consistently and unabashedly attempted to disrupt Democratic elections and promote propaganda in order to strengthen its own strategic interests.

The Trump administration is pushing our Nation to the verge of a national security crisis. How much leverage does Putin have over Trump and his associates? Our great Nation can't be their collateral damage.

BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today is Brain Injury Awareness Day, and I welcome those who are in Washington today to share their stories.

This is near and dear to my heart. I spent nearly 30 years in healthcare rehabilitation services, and this was one of my areas of practice and expertise. I served as a board member for the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania, and I helped form a brain injury support group for the patients and their families that I served.

The theme for this year's campaign is "Not Alone." This is a platform for educating the general public about the incidence of brain injury, and the needs of people with brain injuries and their families. The campaign also works to destigmatize the injury, empower those who have survived, and promote the many types of support that are available.

The need to raise awareness is great: more than 3.5 million children and

adults sustain an acquired brain injury each year, but the incidence is unknown.

Mr. Speaker, everyone recovers at a different pace, but the support the patient receives can actually let them know that they are not alone in this fight.

OPPOSING AMERICANS LOSING THEIR HEALTH CARE

(Mr. CRIST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to 24 million Americans losing their health insurance, including 60,000 residents in my home of Pinellas County, Florida. Florida is the number one State with Affordable Care Act enrollments—number one. We stand to lose the most with this repeal.

But what we are debating this week is far worse than just a repeal. It is how the new bill treats the least among us. Medicaid, which the poor and disabled depend on, would be devastated, leaving an estimated 3.5 million children and 720,000 disabled Americans without care.

There are a lot of people here today in the Nation's Capital in wheelchairs, trying to make this point to all of us. What could be more cruel than taking away health care for all of them?

This is a misguided proposal. We must work together to improve health care, bring down costs, expand access, and protect the most vulnerable in our society.

Mr. Speaker, people's lives are on the line with this vote tomorrow. Let's do the right thing. Reject this bill.

TAKE YOUR CRIMINALS BACK OR LOSE VISAS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Florida Police Officer Andrew Widman was murdered, shot in the face while trying to resolve a dispute. His death was preventable, however. The murderer of Officer Widman was an illegal immigrant and convicted felon. He did not belong here. He should have been sent back home to his native country, Cuba, after he served his sentence, but Cuba would not take him back.

Cuba is one of about 30 countries that refuse to take back their convicted citizens after they are legally ordered deported. Then, unfortunately, they are released back on our streets to commit more crimes. These days need to end. No more get-out-of-jail-free cards. There must be consequences to these nations that flaunt our laws.

My bill, the Timely Repatriation Act, restricts diplomatic visas to countries that deny or delay the repatriation of a foreign national whose removal has been legally ordered.

Take your criminals back or lose diplomatic visas.

And that is just the way it is.

SALUTING UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACTION NETWORK

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Universal Health Care Action Network, also known as UHCAN, for their energy and advocacy to protect the Affordable Care Act.

I was honored to join UHCAN in a town hall where we presented our message to men, women, families, and children from across central Ohio who were eager to organize. Do you know why? To save the health care for more than 22 million newly insured Americans, including nearly 1 million Ohioans, who gained coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

We heard personal stories, stories from Laura, Mindy, Rachel, and Kevin Rhodes—who was my guest at the joint session of Congress right here—on how the Affordable Care Act was saving their lives.

Mr. Speaker, yet, here we are tomorrow, on the seventh anniversary of the Affordable Care Act, preparing to repeal and replace it with Republican care; legislation which would push 24 million Americans off their healthcare coverage, and give massive tax breaks to 400 superwealthy families, while the rest of us, we pay more for less.

Mr. Speaker, I join my constituents and Americans across the country who oppose Republican care. Join me tomorrow and say "no."

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OPPOSE THE EFFORT TO REPEAL AND REPLACE

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition of the effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

Simply, my constituents will be stuck paying more. And if they are not losing their coverage, they will know somebody who is going to lose their coverage. And if they are over the age of 50 and not on Medicare yet, they are going to suffer a very cruel age tax.

I think not of politics when the President said some are going to pay a political price if they don't support this, I think about what they are going to pay at the doctor's office.

John Cameron of Dublin, California, told me that, before the Affordable Care Act, he could not get the double hip surgery that he needed. Because of it, he was able to get it last week. We need hardworking small-business owners like John to keep working and have affordable insurance.